

20. (Amended) A thermoplastic composition comprising a thermoplastic polymer, having incorporated therein a crosslinked phase from a reaction of:

(A) a copolymer made from an unsaturated epoxide, or a polyolefin grafted with an unsaturated epoxide and having 2 epoxide functional groups,

(B) a copolymer made from ethylene and an unsaturated carboxylic acid anhydride, and

(C) a copolymer made from an unsaturated carboxylic acid, or an  $\alpha,\omega$ -aminocarboxylic

acid.

21. (Amended) A thermoplastic composition comprising a thermoplastic polymer, having incorporated therein a crosslinked phase from a reaction of:

(A) a copolymer made from ethylene/alkyl (meth)acrylate/glycidyl (meth)acrylate,

(B) a copolymer made from unsaturated carboxylic acid anhydride, and

(C) a copolymer made from unsaturated carboxylic acid, or an  $\alpha,\omega$ -aminocarboxylic acid.

22. (Amended) A composition according to claim 20, wherein (A) is a copolymer made from ethylene/alkyl (meth)acrylate/glycidyl (meth)acrylate.

23. (Amended) A composition according to claim 20, wherein (A) is either a copolymer made from ethylene and an unsaturated epoxide, a polyolefin grafted with an unsaturated epoxide and having two epoxide groups, said product being other than said copolymer and polyolefin, and (C) is a partially or completely hydrolyzed copolymer made from ethylene and an unsaturated carboxylic acid anhydride, a partially or completely hydrolyzed copolymer of a polyolefin grafted with an unsaturated carboxylic acid anhydride, or an  $\alpha,\omega$ -aminocarboxylic acid.

24. (Amended) A composition according to claim 21, wherein (B) is either a copolymer made from ethylene and an unsaturated carboxylic acid anhydride, or a polyolefin grafted with an unsaturated carboxylic acid anhydride, and (C) is a partially or completely hydrolyzed copolymer made from ethylene and an unsaturated carboxylic acid, a partially or completely hydrolyzed copolymer of a polyolefin grafted with an unsaturated carboxylic acid anhydride, or an  $\alpha,\omega$ -aminocarboxylic acid.

25. (Amended) A composition according to claim 20, wherein (C) is a copolymer made from ethylene/alkyl (meth)acrylate/(meth)acrylic acid.

26. (Amended) A composition according to claim 21, wherein (C) is a copolymer made from ethylene/alkyl (meth)acrylate/(meth)acrylic acid.

27. (Amended) A composition according to claim 22, wherein (C) is a copolymer made from ethylene/alkyl (meth)acrylate/(meth)acrylic acid.

28. (Amended) A composition according to claim 23, wherein (C) is a copolymer made from ethylene/alkyl (meth)acrylate/(meth)acrylic acid.

29. (Amended) A composition according to claim 24, wherein (C) is a copolymer made from ethylene/alkyl (meth)acrylate/(meth)acrylic acid.

32. (Amended) A composition according to claim 23, wherein (A) is said copolymer made from ethylene and an unsaturated epoxide.

36. (Amended) A composition according to claim 23, wherein (C) is said copolymer made from ethylene and unsaturated carboxylic acid.

37. (Amended) A composition according to claim 36, wherein (A) is a copolymer made from ethylene and glycidyl methacrylate.

38. (Amended) A composition according to claim 20, wherein (B) is a copolymer made from ethylene and maleic anhydride.

39. (Amended) A composition according to claim 37, wherein (B) is a copolymer made from ethylene and maleic anhydride.

40. (Amended) A composition according to claim 39, wherein (C) is a copolymer

C 84

made from ethylene/alkyl (meth)acrylate/(meth)acrylic acid.

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*Please add the following new claims:*

--41. (New) A thermoplastic composition comprising a thermoplastic polymer, having incorporated therein a crosslinked phase from a reaction of:

(A) a copolymer of an unsaturated epoxide or a polyolefin grafted with an unsaturated epoxide and having 2 epoxide functional groups,

(B) a copolymer of ethylene and an unsaturated carboxylic acid anhydride, and

(C) a copolymer of an unsaturated carboxylic acid, or an  $\alpha,\omega$ -aminocarboxylic acid.

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42. (New) A thermoplastic composition comprising a thermoplastic polymer, having incorporated therein a crosslinked phase from a reaction of:

(A) an ethylene/alkyl (meth)acrylate/glycidyl (meth)acrylate copolymer,

(B) a copolymer of an unsaturated carboxylic acid anhydride, and

(C) a copolymer of an unsaturated carboxylic acid, or an  $\alpha,\omega$ -aminocarboxylic acid.--

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